

Religious Intelligence.

REFORMED CHURCHES.

City.—Rev. George W. Musgrave, D. D., has resigned the pastoral charge of the North Tenth street church.—The Norris Square, or Ninth church, (Rev. James Crowe, pastor,) was formally opened and dedicated on Sabbath, Oct. 4th. The cost of the building is \$18,000, and of this sum \$12,600 has been paid, leaving a debt of \$6000 on the building. The collections during the day footed up almost \$3000, leaving a debt of only \$3000 on this beautiful and commodious church.—The Presbyterian church at Chestnut Hill, (Rev. Roger Owen, pastor,) is to be enlarged. This was made necessary by the demand for pews. An addition of twenty-four feet to the length of the present building is to be made, and the church, with the beautiful manse adjoining, will form one of the most attractive church establishments in our suburbs.

The O. S. Boards.—The receipts for the month of August were: Board of Domestic Missions, \$3,907.32; Board of Foreign Missions, \$10,335.53; Board of Education, \$658.17; total amounts, \$14,900.52.—The Synod of Southern Iowa has appointed the fourth Thursday of October as a day of prayer in reference to the embarrassed state of the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions. It is hoped other Synods may be moved to take similar action.—V. W. W. Presbyterians.

Blackboards.—Rev. Alfred Taylor writing to the S. S. Times of "Grievous Blackboards," says: "The best blackboard I ever saw or used, was no board at all. It was in a church. The church had been reconstructed, and it occurred to the pastor, (Rev. Mr. Wylie, New Castle, Pa.) that the space in the rear of the desk (in the lecture-room) could be made more useful in this way than by ornamenting it with the fanciful colonnade so generally blotted in perspective, behind our pulpits. So he mixed about twenty-five cents' worth of lamp black in the finishing coat of plaster, and spread the black mixture over a space about ten feet wide and twelve feet high. This back part of the wall being neatly surrounded by an arched moulding, looks better than some of the hideous colonnades referred to, and furnishes a surface which is more like real slate than almost any of the slate imitations. You cannot well upset this blackboard, nor does it wobble about, as some boards do, when you write on it.

Infant Baptisms.—The National Baptist has been looking after the statistics and thinks that the returns indicate some half-hearted want of consistency in the churches which profess to practise Infant Baptism. "The Reformed (Dutch) church reports for the year 3,843 infants baptized in 37,090 families—an average of about one for every ten families. The 48,000 Congregationalists of Connecticut report, for the past year, 835 baptisms of infants—less than two for each church of 100 members. The 24 churches in Rhode Island, with 3,835 members, an average of 159 to each church, baptized the past year but thirty-three infants, less for each church than one and a half."

Princeton Seminary with a wise courtesy repudiates the imputation cast upon it by the Union Seminary by its volunteer champion, the correspondent of The Presbyterian, Prof. Green writes a reply to the Presbyterian, in which he says that the Middle and Junior Classes are both larger than they were last year, and as for the Senior Class, it was a small one at the outset. He acknowledges that it has been still further depleted, but only by causes that are quite exceptional. The "craft of New School men" has had nothing to do with the attraction of five of its members to Union Seminary. The Professor says: "Five members of the present Senior Class, all of them good and worthy men, have gone to Union Seminary. Of these, two came originally from this Seminary to Princeton with the avowed design of remaining but a single year. Another was in the New School connection, and yielded to the urgency of friends to spend one year of his course in an institution connected with their own domination. The fourth was a Methodist, who, during the past year united with the New School body; and the last of the five was a student from Canada, who desired to enlarge his acquaintance with this country and its institutions, by passing a year in New York city."

Ministerial.—At a late meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pennsylvania College, at Gettysburg, Pa., the Rev. Edsall Ferris was elected Vice-President of the College. Mr. Ferris is a minister of the O. S. church, a member of the Presbytery of Hudson, and is now Professor of the English language in the Imperial College at Peking, China, is on a visit to this country, but will soon sail from New York to Europe, and make the trip across Europe and Asia to Peking, by the overland route.—The Rev. W. F. Brauns was installed pastor of the Seventh church of Cincinnati, Monday evening, Sept. 15th.—Rev. D. T. Carnahan has been installed pastor of the church of Bellefield, Presbytery of Ohio.—Rev. John Montgomery was installed pastor of the Presbyterian church of Princeton, Ind., on Tuesday evening, Sept. 22d.—The church at Saratoga, Pa., has called to its pastorate the Rev. S. C. Logan, Jr., Corresponding Secretary of the Freedmen's (O. S.) Committee.—The First church of Decatur, Ill., has given an unanimous call to the Rev. H. Gill, of Greensburg, Pa.—Rev. J. G. McKee, Superintendent of the U. P. Presbytery's Mission at Nashville, Tennessee, died on Sabbath, the 27th of September, at Harshaville, O.—Crossing the Lines.—Rev. Philip Schaff, D. D., has given a conditional acceptance of the professorship of Church History in the Hartford Theological Institute. The Christian Instructor says: "The Rev. G. G. Mitchell, formerly situated supply in the U. P. congregation of Pittsburg, Ind., has gone to the O. S. Presbyterians, and is preaching in their church at Delphi, Ind." At a late meeting of the O. S. Presbytery of Cincinnati, the Rev. J. A. P. McGaw was received as a member of Presbytery, upon a dismission from the U. P. Presbytery of Monmouth, Illa. Rev. Arthur Little, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Bedford, N. H., has been invited to the pastorate of the Congregational Church at Fond du Lac, Wis. Salary \$1800. At the recent session of the Cincinnati Conference Rev. W. G. Stewart, administrator of the P. E. Church, after the usual examination before the Conference, was admitted to the ministry of the M. E. Church. Rev. J. W. Cracraft of Gambier, Ohio, has formally withdrawn from the ministry of the Episcopal Church. His letter to Bishop McVaine declares that his reasons for taking this step are to be found in the tenets of the Church, which in terms give to the clergy the power of remission of sins, and attribute to the rite of baptism a saving efficacy. These tenets, Mr. Cracraft believes, are, becoming, through the spread of Ritualism, the vital and essential faith of the Church. J. E. Moffat, licentiate of the U. P. Church, was by letter received under the care of the O. S. Presbytery of Chicago, at its last meeting.

Congregationalist.—Rev. Dr. Boynton has resigned the charge of the Church in Washington, D. C.—Rev. Wm. Alvin Bartlett, pastor of the Elm-City church in Brooklyn, has still under consideration the call from the Plymouth Church of Chicago, they offer \$5,000 salary, and all the expenses of removal.—The American Home Missionary Society now sustains twenty-five missionaries in California. Five Churches have been organized; two have be-

come self-supporting—three houses of worship have been completed, and steps have been taken toward the erection of six others. The new Congregational Church at Amherst, Mass., was dedicated on Wednesday, Sept. 23d. At the communion of the Church in Thomaston, Me., Sept. 6th, 53 were added to their number by profession, making 74 this year. The revival still continues.

Methodist.—The Catholic Telegraph of Cincinnati says: "The choir of a Methodist Church, on Seventh-street has been making desperate efforts to sing the music of one of Mozart's Masses in English words. It is like trying to imitate the grand organ on the Irish bag-pipes.—The Wesleyans of Great Britain, last year, repaired and built 260 churches at an expense of £289,822, or nearly \$1,500,000 in gold. Seventy-eight of these new churches were built where formerly they had no church accommodations, thereby furnishing sittings for 22,139 persons. The Methodist Episcopalians of this country receive the proposal of a 'reunion' to the P. E. Church with as little favor as did their Wesleyan brethren in England the proposals that they should return to the Church of England. The Methodist says that the two churches are so totally unlike in spirit, that any attempt to reunite them would result in disastrous failure. Yet a committee of negotiation on this subject was appointed by the General Conference at Chicago.

Episcopalian.—Rev. Charles F. Robertson, rector of the Church of Malone, N. Y., was elected, on the 3rd instant, Bishop of the Diocese of Missouri, in place of the late Bishop Hawkes, deceased. The N. Y. Sun says that the Low Church Bishops do not number over one-fourth of the whole House; that only the new Bishop of Virginia, of all the recent additions to the episcopate, belongs to that party, and that only Bishop Lee of Delaware would be willing to go out with a secession to establish a more Protestant Episcopal Church. Yet the presidency of the House has passed from the High to the Low Church party by the death of Bishop Hopkins, for Bishop Smith of Kentucky as the senior Bishop succeeds to the office.—Rev. H. D. Nobles, rector of the Episcopal Church in Bridgewater, Mass., recently committed suicide. Temporary insanity was the probable cause.—Rev. Hiram W. P. Bishop, D. D., rector elect of St. John's, Cinn., formerly rector of St. John's Church in Chicago, died in Paris, August 31, from a sun stroke.

Baptist.—The Christian Instructor says:—"The First Baptist church in Philadelphia have taken steps, we learn, to dispense with a choir, and return to simple general congregational singing in its worship of God. Some others of the largest and most influential churches in Philadelphia are, we understand, meditating the same thing. Nor is this surprising, if all we hear is true. In one church, we are informed, over \$2000 are paid a year to keep up the choir, including, of course, the organist. In other persons who are found on opera, and sometimes other stages, during the week, are engaged in the choir on the Sabbath."

Romanist.—The N. Y. Tablet says: "Taken as a body, the Catholic population of this country are by far the least vicious and most temperate of any portion of the American people, equally large." Then they are a very much slandered people, and have good reason to complain of the police reports.—Baron Beust's answer in behalf of Austria to the Papal Allocution is very frank and somewhat conciliatory. He had warned the Holy See in a previous despatch to word the re-buke mildly, but finds that the Allocution denounces the new laws in an expectedly severe terms; that it transcends the sphere of the Church, that it denounces Austria for doing what France is allowed to do without disapprobation; that it insults national feeling and has aroused a bitterness of hostility to the Church hitherto unexampled; that its concluding appeal to the bishops of Hungary is equally ungenerous and unwise.—The bull summoning the new oecumenical council ignores all precedents in that the princes of Catholic nations are not invited. Archbishop Manning in a recent speech interpreted this as a Papal declaration in favor of the severance of Church and State, and rejoiced in the decision. Later intelligence shows that the Pope, after much discussion, decides to invite Napoleon III. and that the Emperor of Austria will also be invited if the opposition of the Jesuits abated, does not prevent.—Rev. Charles Egan, a Catholic clergyman at Augusta, Me., has been indicted by the Grand Jury of that county for slander. There were traced to him anonymous communications to the War Department implicating Colonel Buel and Major Gilbreth, of the United States Arsenal, and Dr. Brickette, the Surgeon of the post, in transactions of a fraudulent character. The charges were investigated by the proper authorities and dismissed by them as without foundation, and the matter was then brought by the aggrieved parties before the Grand Jury.—A correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune writes: "Religious services are not allowed, in Rome, in private houses, and have several times within the last few years been broken up by the police. The Scotch clergyman was holding service in his own private lodgings, when he was threatened, through the British Consul, with 'the penalties of the Inquisition' for so doing. It is this very prohibition that is our great cause of complaint against the Roman Government."

The Waldensian Work in Venice.—Secretary Kendall writes: "During the last eighteen months there has been in this city what in our country we would call a great revival of religion. Three or four hundred people gather together to hear the preaching of the Word; and the number could easily be doubled if another preacher were placed of meeting could be secured. Nearly two hundred persons to the Church. When the lease of the rooms they now occupy expires, the priests will doubtless take good care that these disciples shall not be able to find any others." Mr. Colton, our Consul at Venice, writes: "It is now less than a year and a half since an organized work was begun. In that time hundreds have listened to Gospel truth, and seem still to thirst after more. Only since December has the church existed. It contains nearly 200 faithful Christians. We have 300 more names on the list as Catechumens, who are being faithfully instructed in the Bible, and from whose number recruit intelligent Christians, Church when they become members. We have our School dates from September last. We have about 80 intelligent and earnest pupils. The Bible is our most common text-book. Music is taught in the Church and School, and if you could hear the musical Italians singing those familiar hymns, you would think you never heard such congregational music before. We have, at present, two places of worship, in each of which, two, or three times a week, there are religious exercises, besides other meetings connected with the Bible class, etc. There are generally from 200 to 400 persons in each place every evening. We have two ministers and three teachers, and soon will have a high-class teacher and organize a higher grade. The school can easily be increased to 200 or 300 if we had suitable arrangements for school purposes. Our lease of the building expires in a few months. It will be difficult to rent in the future. We must have a building of our own. We have passed through one crisis, when the presentation of priests—at a moment of great danger, the faithful and noble pastor was struck down, and for days and weeks we feared he would

never assume his place again—nearly losing his eyesight at last—his wife sick unto death—both his children buried in one week. Then it was all over, and the priests rejoiced and thought it was all over. But by the mercy of God, the cloud passed away, and the work was stronger than ever." Mr. Colton, relying on the generous support of British and American Christians, has purchased a suitable building for \$15,000.

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